

11-1-1970

The Reporter, Vol. IV, No. III

Institute of Community Services

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LAFAYETTE



COUNTY

The Reporter

MARSHALL



COUNTY

ICS Inc. Project Headstart

NOVEMBER, 1970

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOL. IV, NO. III



PRE-REVIEW TEAM GETS A "GOOD LOOK" AT ICS

The pre-review team that was assigned to evaluate the operation of the ICS program got a good look at it through the eyes of Ansleum White, TCC, Jackson, Willie Pickens, State OEO Representative, Jackson and Morris Carpenter and Marion McMillan from Atlanta's regional HEW office. The pre-review, the third of its kind for ICS, was held Nov. 4-6, 1970.

Arvern Moore, Executive Director of ICS, cited the purpose of the pre-review: "It is conducted annually to assess the effectiveness of the program in terms of the funds being used to meet the objectives that are included in ICS's work program, and to determine if these objectives are being met. In addition, it assures that the program operation is within the guidelines set forth by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW)."

The team made a tour of all the Headstart centers in both counties. They talked with center personnel, held conferences with staff directors, dined with children, checked records, made recommendations and finally stated at the beginning of the "exit conference", "It's a real good program" with the Educational Department being "one of the best we've seen."

The team also had a chance to attend a meeting with new Policy Council members. They had a chance to "see evidence of parent involvement because of a generally good response" at the meeting because, as Marion McMillan put it, "Parent Involvement is the name of the game."

Present at the "exit conference" just before the team left, was Robert Hill, ICS Board Chairman, the pre-review team, and ICS's Staff Directors.

ICS continually needs the community support that has been exemplified in the past in order to keep it "a real good program".

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR AND TEACHERS DO FOLLOW-UP ON HEADSTARTERS

In efforts to improve program quality and create a closer relationship between Headstart and the public schools, ICS's Educational Director, Mrs. Dorothy Henderson and a group of the Headstart teachers visited the first grade classroom of schools in Marshall and Lafayette Counties. Concepts of the educational program of ICS were discussed with first grade teachers so that they would be knowledgeable of the types of activities in which the children had been involved.

Through various meetings of this kind, workshops, and conferences with public schools and other agencies, it is hoped that the total community will become involved in the over-all development of children, beginning at this pre-school level. Mrs. Henderson talked about this stage of a child's life and said, "The value and importance of this aspect of a child's life in reference to total and positive human development is vitally important."

The group discussed progress reports that measured the levels of social, emotional and academic skills acquired by the Headstart children. ICS is now receiving reports that will help in evaluation and improvement of its Educational program for the children.

ICS'S MOST RECENT VISITORS

- *Mrs. Barbara McCoy, Training Coordinating Council, Jackson, Miss.
- *Mr. Robert Geeter, Representative of Supplementary Training Associates, Washington, D. C.
- *Dr. Margaret Morrison, Pediatrician, Marshall-Benton Health Department, Holly Springs, Miss.
- *Mrs. Ellie Stewart, Executive Director, United Community Action, Ashland, Miss.
- *Mrs. Bennie Freeman and Miss Barbara Banks, STAR, Holly Springs, Miss.
- *Miss Kate Wilkinson, Miss Jeanette Jennings, Miss Kate Shepherd, and Mrs. Martha Garrison, Social Work Program and Sociology Department, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss.
- *Ansleum White, TCC, Jackson.
- *Willie Pickens, OEO Representative, Jackson, Miss.
- *Morris Carpenter, HEW's Regional Office, Atlanta, Ga.
- *Marion McMillan, HEW's Regional Office, Atlanta, Ga.

TIP OF THE ICS HAT . . .

ICS Gives A Special Tip of its Hat to the following for donations and/or services to the Headstart program or its participants:

Oxford Fabric Center - Oxford, Miss.; T. G. & Y. - Oxford, Miss.; Morgan and Lindsey - Oxford, Miss.; Dr. Roscoe Boyer - Univ. of Miss.; Mrs. Connie Hearn - Red Banks Center; Mrs. Lue Jean Lucas - Red Banks Center; Mrs. Lillie Batts - Red Banks Center; Mr. Raymond Rucker - Red Banks Center; Mr. Lannie (Jr.) Cummings - Holly Springs, Miss.; Mrs. Martha Ray Buford - Gordon Center; Mrs. Alberta McGowan - Gordon Center; Mrs. Vassor Joiner - Gordon Center; Mrs. Dianne Clark, Special Ed. - Oxford, Miss.; Miss Rebecca Lofton, Special Ed. - Oxford, Miss.

"THE WAY WE SEE IT"



"A typical classroom scene at Potts Camp Center shows two volunteers (a guardian and a parent) working with a group of the Headstart children."



"If you're close enough to read the words on the placard held by these two Rust Center Headstarters, how close are you to helping make a contribution to the cause?"



"For the brightest eyes you've ever seen, its 3-year-olds at Halloween". (Weems Headstart Center)

HEADSTART

TEACHER

INVOLVED IN

"PROJECT

UNDERSTANDING"



Mrs. Romel Moore, Headstart teacher at the Slayden-Mt. Pleasant Center in Marshall County accompanied thirty-seven (37) children and one (1) adult from Marshall and Lafayette Counties on a trip to Richland Center, Wisconsin, this summer. The trip was a part of "Project Understanding", a project designed to aid in creating a better understanding between blacks and whites by encouraging them to work together in getting to know each other.

Mr. Mal Gissen, a Richland Center lawyer, and the families who were serving as hosts to the group, were waiting for them on their arrival and greeted them with the warmest of welcomes. The children and adults spent three weeks living in the homes of white families. Mrs. Moore explained that they felt very welcome because she "was given five invitations to stay in different homes for one week."

The children were engaged in many cultural and recreational activities as swimming, boat riding, horseback riding, milking cows, visiting handicapped persons, visiting an Indian reservation and many others.

Seven boys and girls from Richland Center returned with the local group for a one-week visit in Mississippi. They taught some classes in sewing, among other activities, while they were here. They expressed an interest in coming back again and working more with our young children to help teach them arts or help them develop any skills desired.

Through the project one sewing machine was donated for each county, Marshall and Lafayette and the Wisconsinites stated there would be more donations to families here.

When Mrs. Moore was asked what she thought about the project, she replied, "It should be a project for the world".

Coordination of the project was done by Mrs. Cora Bell Rogers, Oxford, who has worked in this type program for many years to aid in developing our young children and enhancing the relationship of blacks and whites in these two counties.

Mrs. Moore, seated, is shown in the picture discussing the trips with Mrs. Evelyn Reliford, Social Services Worker.

"NEW CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ELECTED BY ICS EMPLOYEES"

On September 25, the ICS Career Development Committee revised its by-laws to widen representation on the committee. The "old" committee has served long and well. They deserve appreciation for their hard work. The new committee will have representatives from every component of ICS. This is very important because the Career Development Committee makes decisions that affect all employees.

Some of the matters handled by the Career Development Committee include in-service training, adult education classes, G. E. D. training, career progression, Supplementary Training, and job and training opportunities.

ICS employees have elected their new Career Development Committee representatives. We welcome to the new committee Mr. Linder Burt, Mrs. Dale Campbell, Mrs. Mary Jane Guy, Mrs. Annie Lois Hilliard, Mrs. Ludie Mae Hutchins, Mrs. Zula Jackson, Mrs. Lorine Jones, Mrs. Romel Moore, Mrs. Lorine Raimsey, Mrs. Doris Thompson, Mrs. Joe Emma Turner, Mrs. Urma Walker, and Mrs. Mary Alice Wright.

The seven ICS training coordinators will serve as ex-officio members of the committee. These coordinators are Mrs. Annie Greer, Mrs. Zula Jackson, Mrs. Una Richmond, Mrs. Nola Robinson and Miss Scarine Walker. Mrs. Gertrude Anderson and Mrs. Mary (continued on next page)

MEDICAL COORDINATOR RESIGNS POST

Mrs. Dorothy McAlexander was employed by ICS in March, 1967 as Assistant Medical Coordinator; two weeks later she was promoted to Medical Coordinator; on October 23, 1970 she resigned the position to accept other responsibilities.

Her record at ICS shows many noted accomplishments, the one of which she is most proud, being the Voucher System introduced and made innovative in 1969. Her reason for being extremely proud of the Voucher System is that "it involves parents in getting the services of Headstart for their children". Mrs. McAlexander doesn't "like for people to take parent's children and do what the parents can and should do". In other words, she feels that, whenever possible, parents should assume certain responsibilities related to the total development of their own children.

During her career with ICS, Mrs. McAlexander, an LPN with 20 hours of Supplementary Training in ICS, has attended many conferences directed at providing training for medical coordinators. Among the places where conferences were held are Atlanta, Miami, Memphis, Jackson, and New Orleans and Washington where she introduced the Voucher System and "everywhere else I could get a chance to go," she said.

In an on-the-job interview, Mrs. McAlexander, referred to as Dot or Mrs. Mc. expressed her views of the success of the program to Lemuel Walls, Social Services Director. She said, "Sooner or later we've got to have total community involvement, especially parents, to phase out Headstart or any federal agencies so their services will not be needed. Commitments to the causes of the agencies' existence must be made from within; otherwise, agencies will alienate clients and clients will not become involved."

On Thursday, October 15, a surprise farewell party was given at Gordon Center for Mrs. McAlexander. The room was decorated with fall colors, and gifts and refreshments were ready when the guest of honor entered.

Short speeches and songs were made by various center employees, after which Arvern Moore, Executive Director of ICS cited a few of Mrs. Mc's many accomplishments as a member of the ICS Family.

Mr. Robert Hill, Chairman of the ICS Board of Directors, on behalf of the ICS Family, presented Mrs. Mc. with a floral centerpiece, a scrapbook, two silver pieces with a tray, and a dip-and-chip set. Potts Camp Center presented her a beautiful slip and Gordon Center presented a cork and wood coaster set.



New Career Development Committee (Continued)

Johnson have recently resigned as training coordinators, and the new committee will have to elect replacements for them. They have served the trainees well!

In addition, the new committee will recommend to the Executive Director, Mr. Arvern Moore, the names of people for appointment to the committee which will be composed of some members appointed by him.

THREE-YEAR-OLDS CONSTITUTE PILOT CLASSES



Three Year Olds at Gordon

Two pilot classes of three-year-old children are well on their way to providing the kind of information ICS needs to evaluate and enhance its educational program. Both classes, with fifteen students each, are set up in Lafayette County at the Weems and Gordon Centers, newly-consolidated complexes. Six Marshall County children are in the class at the Gordon Center. The children are expected to remain in Headstart for three years.

The purpose of the pilot classes, as cited by Mrs. Dorothy Henderson, Educational Director, is "to measure the effectiveness of Headstart over a period of three years, in comparison to the one or two years, in which the average child is enrolled." She stated that there would be periodic evaluations of the children to determine the accomplishments, and after graduation there would be considerable follow-up done on these children.

Dr. Roscoe Boyer, psychological consultant from the University of Mississippi, has given a pre-test to the three-year-olds and has committed his services as a volunteer for the remaining tests that will be given.

These children are included in the total of 860 children for whom funds are received. The approval for the set-up of these classes was given by ICS's Board of Directors, Policy Council, HEW's Atlanta Office and the parents of the three-year-old children.

CENTERS HOLD ELECTIONS: RED BANKS STARS AS "CENTER OF THE MONTH"



During the month of October, all ICS Headstart Centers held annual meetings to elect parents to serve on Center Committees and the Policy Council (formerly referred to as the Policy Advisory Committee). This year two additional activities accompanied the elections. First, all centers held get-acquainted activities that preceded the elections by a week; secondly, there was the presentation of a gift to the center who was selected as the STAR.

To have this honor, the center had to have the largest number of parents present based on the number of children enrolled. The Red Banks Center, at the time of the get-acquainted activity had 30 children enrolled. Twenty-seven parents attended the affair. Therefore, Red Banks got the honor of being the STAR.

To magnify the brightness of the star a group of Red Banks' parents volunteered their services and picked peas to be given and divided among all the Headstart Centers. The peas were donated by Mr. Lannie "Jr." Cummings who had grown them. He said, "If you pick them, you can have them".

The Red Banks Center Committee is encouraging other parents to become involved in all phases of the Headstart program in order to receive maximum benefits from its operation.

In the photo taken at the Red Banks Center, Mrs. Manda Malone, left, presents a "Mickey Mouse" clock to Mrs. Mamie Jones, Administrative teacher while Mrs. Mary McKinney, a parent, and some of the Headstart children look on.

Red Banks, The STAR!!!

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ICS THINKS

"It is important that parents gain skills that will assist them in changing the conditions that made them and their children eligible to participate in the Head Start Program."

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